

Barack Obama, US President Today, at my direction, the United States carried out that operation ... they killed Osama bin Laden and took custody of his body.

The death of bin Laden marks the most significant achievement to date against al-Qaeda.

Tonight, we give thanks to the counter intelligence officials who have tirelessly worked, we give thanks to them men who carried out this operation.

Finally, let me say to the families, we have not forgotten your loss, today's achievement is a testament to the greatness of our country.

Tonight we are once again reminded that American can do whatever we set our mind to ... we can do these things not because of wealth and power but because of who we are.

Pakistan Foreign Office The death of bin Laden is a "major setback to terrorist organizations around the world."

"This operation was conducted by the US Forces in accordance with declared US policy that Osama bin Laden will be eliminated in a direct action by the U.S. Forces, wherever found in the world."

Yousuf Raza Gilani, Pakistani Prime Minister We will not allow our soil to be used against any other country for terrorism and therefore I think it's a great victory, it's a success and I congratulate the success of this operation.

Hamid Karzai, Afghan President The killing of bin Laden is very "important news."

The Taliban must learn a lesson from this. The Taliban should refrain from fighting.

The war against terrorism is in its sources, in its financial sources, its sanctuaries, in its training bases, not in Afghanistan

George W. Bush, former US President This momentous achievement marks a victory for America, for people who seek peace around the world, and for all those who lost loved ones on 9/11.

The fight against terror goes on, but tonight America

has sent an unmistakable message: No matter how long it takes, justice will be done.

Michael Bloomberg, New York City Mayor The killing of Osama bin Laden does not lessen the suffering that New Yorkers and Americans experienced at his hands, but it is a critically important victory for our nation, and a tribute to the millions of men and women in our armed forces and elsewhere who have fought so hard for our nation.

New Yorkers have waited nearly 10 years for this news. It is my hope that it will bring some closure and comfort to all those who lost loved ones on 9/11.

Raymond Kelly, New York Police Commissioner Killing of Osama bin Laden a "welcome milestone" for the families of the victims of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

David Cameron, British Prime Minister Osama bin Laden was responsible for the worst terrorist atrocities the world has seen for 9/11 and for so many attacks, which have cost thousands of lives, many of them British. It is a great success that he has been found and will no longer be able to pursue his campaign of global terror.

The news that Osama bin Laden is dead will bring great relief to people across the world.

Ghassan Khatib, Palestine Authority spokesman Getting rid of bin Laden is good for the cause of peace worldwide but what counts is to overcome the discourse and the methods, the violent methods, that were created and encouraged by bin Laden and others in the world.

P. Chidambaram, Indian Home Minister We take note with grave concern that part of the statement in which (US) President Obama said that the firefight in which Osama bin Laden was killed took place in Abbottabad 'deep inside Pakistan.'

This fact underlines our concern that terrorists belonging to different organizations find sanctuary in Pakistan.

Alain Juppe, France's Foreign Minister bin Laden's death is a "victory for all democracies fighting the abominable scourge of terrorism".

Silvio Berlusconi, Italian Prime Minister This is a great outcome in the fight against evil, in the fight against terrorism, a great outcome for the United States and for all democracies.

Benigno Aquino, Philippine President The death of Osama bin Laden marks a signal defeat for the forces of extremism and terrorism.

It represents the death of the efforts of one man to stoke the fires of sectarian hatred and to promote terrorism on a scale unprecedented in the history of mass murder.

Franco Frattini, Italian Foreign Minister bin Laden's death at the hands of US forces "is a victory of good over evil, of justice over cruelty."

Robert Fisk, journalist Osama bin Laden was the founder of Al-Qaeda, but to suggest that he was in command, sitting in some computer cave, is completely rubbish.

He spent most of his time hiding, most of his time running from the US authorities.

I never thought he would hang around long in Afghanistan but in Pakistan he had a soft spot. He felt safer in Pakistan than he did in Afghanistan, and I think that is correct.

You have to realise that bin Laden is a very popular mind, even with the royalty.

He was saying things about the West, which their dictators wouldn't say, his condemnation of the West, and he had to say it from a cave.

He is a figure who would be reflected upon.

Steve Clemmons, The New America Foundation It's game changing news.

We got used to the fact that Osama bin Laden was beyond our reach. He has slipped off the radar screen, he was a pop culture figure with a fanatic bent.

The Muslim world are going to continue to have to deal with those who are inspired by him but of course knocking off a symbol globally is significant.

Imtiaz Gul, political analyst It has come as a big surprise to most of the Pakistanis, particularly the location. Many believed that he had been long dead.

It is very close to the Pakistani military academy.

I'd presume that the Pakistani intelligence was involved to the extent, previous had been captured with their assistance.

In most cases, the Americans wouldn't tell the Pakistani security institutions where they were headed so in this case they (Pakistani intelligence) were probably on board but probably didn't know where they (the US) were going to.

Mark Kimmit, Military Analyst, Brigadier General in US Army This is not the end of the movement, this is not the end of the terrorism but this is the end of the chapter.

Capturing or killing bin Laden has more iconic value.

It will have symbolic value, because it has been a number of years since bin Laden has exercised day to day control over operations. We still have an al-Qaeda threat out there and that will be there for a number of years.

This organization (Al-Qaeda) is more than bin Laden, it may be symbolised by bin Laden, but it definitely is more than bin Laden.

Sources above quoted from al Jazeera.net

Sources below quoted from CNN.com

Afghan opposition leader Abdullah Abdullah, Hope and Change Bin Laden's killing proves that Pakistan is a "haven" for terror groups, according to Abdullah.

"Killing of Osama bin Laden is pleasant news for Afghans, and now it's proven that al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations are not based in Afghanistan and Pakistan is a haven for them," he said.

Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard Gillard congratulated the U.S. on the operation, and said she acknowledges the role of Pakistan in the fight against terror.

"Our fight against terrorism does not end with bin Laden's death. We must remain vigilant against the threat posed by al-Qaeda and the groups it has inspired," she said.

"We will continue our support for the counterterror-

ism efforts of the United States and our partners, and we will continue our efforts in Afghanistan to ensure that the country never again becomes a safe haven for terrorism.”

French President Nicolas Sarkozy “bin Laden’s death was a result of a ‘remarkable U.S. commando’ operation.

“Osama Bin Laden was a promoter of the ideology of hatred and was the chief of a terrorist organization responsible for the deaths of thousands of victims, especially in Muslim countries,” he said.

“For his victims, justice has been done. Today, in France, we think of them and their families.”

German Chancellor Angela Merkel “With the commando action against Osama bin Laden and his killing, the U.S. military has achieved a decisive strike against al-Qaeda,” she said.

“At his command and in his name, terror was enforced into many countries against men women and children, Christians as well as Muslims. Osama bin Laden suggested that he was operating in the name of Islam, but in reality he makes a mockery of the fundamental values of his own and every other religion.”

Ismail Haniyeh, prime minister for the Hamas government in the Gaza Strip The prime minister condemned the killing, describing bin Laden as a Muslim “mujahid” or holy warrior.

Al-Qaeda and the Islamist radical group Hamas have no official relationship, but the Palestinian conflict with Israel has been the subject of frequent audio messages from al-Qaeda.

India’s external affairs minister M. Krishnas India applauded the killing as a “historic development and victorious milestone in the global war” against terror.

“Over the years, thousands of innocent lives of men, women and children have been tragically lost at the hands of terrorist groups,” the minister said.

“The world must not let down its united effort to overcome terrorism and eliminate the safe havens and sanctuaries that have been provided to terrorists in our own neighborhood.”

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu The prime minister applauded the development in the war against terror.

“Israel joins in the joy of the American people on this historic day in which Osama bin Laden was killed. ... This is a resounding victory for justice, freedom and for the joint values of all the countries that fight side by side determinedly against terror.”

Israeli President Shimon Peres “The end of bin Laden is a great piece of news for the free world.”

“This man was a mega murderer, he killed thousands and thousands of people, people who were totally innocent, and would continue to kill, his purpose in life was to kill anybody who doesn’t belong to him.”

Italian foreign Minister Franco Frattini “This is a great victory for the United States and for the entire international community” in the fight against terror.

“It is a victory made possible by the determination of the United States in their hunt against the one responsible for the most tragic episode at the beginning of this century, 9/11 and numerous other tragedies,” he said. “A victory that rewards the efforts that all of us next to the United States have fought and continue to fight against terrorism. A victory of good against evil, of justice against malignancy. It is a victory of the free and democratic world.”

Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan’s office Spokesman Noriyuki Shikata said the nation would continue its work with the international community to combat terrorism.

“We pay our respects to the efforts of those concerned, including the U.S. and Pakistan. We regard this as part of a united effort to fight against terrorism,” Shikata said. “Japan has been working on assistance to both Pakistan and Afghanistan, and proactively tackling the issue of terrorism.”

Kenyan government spokesman Alfred Mutua The nation, which was bombed by al-Qaeda in 1998, called his killing a “defining moment in the fight against” terrorism.

“Kenya was the first country to be attacked by al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden’s death comes as a relief to many of the victims of the bombings in East Africa,” the spokesman said.

NATO “This is a significant success for the security of NATO allies and all the nations which have joined us in our efforts to combat the scourge of global terrorism to make the world a safer place for all of us,” it said in a statement. “NATO made clear that it considered the September 11 attacks on the United States an attack against all allies. We remember the thousands of innocent lives lost to terrorist atrocities in so many of our nations, in Afghanistan, and around the world.”

Pakistan Foreign Ministry The Pakistani foreign ministry issued a statement confirming the terror leader's death.

“In an intelligence driven operation, Osama bin Laden was killed in the surroundings of Abbottabad in the early hours of this morning. This operation was conducted by the U.S. forces in accordance with declared U.S. policy that Osama bin Laden will be eliminated in a direct action by the U.S. forces, wherever found in the world,” the ministry said.

“Earlier today, President Obama telephoned President Zardari on the successful U.S. operation which resulted in killing of Osama bin Laden.”

The ministry said the killing highlights the resolve of Pakistan and the international community to combat terrorism.

Russia Russia said it is ready to help step up efforts to combat terror, saying only joint efforts can produce results.

“Russia was among the first countries to face the dangers inherent in global terrorism, and unfortunately knows what al-Qaeda is not from hearsay,” the Kremlin said. “Retribution will inevitably reach all terrorists.”

Spain's ruling Socialist Party “This is good news because it has put an end to the symbolic leader of international jihadi terrorism, the al-Qaeda chief, the head of the most dangerous terrorist organization in the world.”

Turkish President Abdullah Gul Gul said he welcomed the news of bin Laden's death.

“Terrorists and leaders of terrorists are captured alive or dead sooner or later,” Gul said at a news confer-

ence. “It should teach a lesson that the leader of the world's most dangerous and sophisticated terrorist organization is captured this way.

Uganda government spokesman Fred Opolot

The east African nation pledged to continue its fight against terrorism. Ugandan troops are part of an African Union force helping fight the al-Shabaab—an al-Qaeda proxy—in Somalia.

“Uganda shall continue to support the ongoing fight against global terrorism and renews its commitment to bring to justice those who commit acts of terror in the country,” the spokesman said.

The Vatican spokesman, Father Federico Lombardi

“Osama bin Laden, as we all know, had the very grave responsibility of spreading division and hatred amongst the people, causing the death of countless of people, and of instrumentalizing religion for this end,” he said. “In front of the death of man, a Christian never rejoices but rather reflects on the grave responsibility of each one in front of God and men, and hopes and commits himself so that every moment not be an occasion for hatred to grow but for peace.”

Yemeni government official A government official described the death of Osama bin Laden as “a truly historic moment.”

We welcome the news ... millions of people will sleep in peace tonight,” the official said. “Osama bin Laden was more of a symbolic figure, a spiritual leader for al-Qaeda.”

The official said it is too early to determine how his death will affect the war against terror.

“But this is definitely a strong blow to the organization,” said the official, who did not want to be named because he is not authorized to talk to the media.

Embassy of the Republic of Yemen “The government of the Republic of Yemen welcomes the elimination of Usama Bin Laden, the founding father of the al-Qaeda terrorist network. The successful operation, spearheaded by U.S. forces, marks a monumental milestone in the ongoing global war against terrorism.”